Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 06709 191651Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 OMB-01 /051 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1644
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

S E C R E T ATHENS 6709

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MASS, GR, US
SUBJ: U.S.-GREEK DEFENSE COOPERATION DISCUSSIONS: WAIVER OF R AND D COSTS AND PLANT AND ASSET USE CHARGES.

1. AS YOU KNOW, IN THE COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS ON THE PARITY IN PROCUREMENT ISSUE, THE GREEKS WITHDREW THEIR DEMAND THAT THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES INCLUDE A PROVISION WAIVING R AND D COSTS AND PLANT AND ASSET USE CHARGES FOR THE F/RF-4 AIRCRAFT BEING PROCURED BY GREECE. THIS WAS BASED ON OUR ARGUMENT THAT ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THE U.S. HAD ALREADY TURNED DOWN GREEK REQUESTS FOR SUCH A WAIVER AND, FURTHERMORE, THAT THIS WAS AN INAPPROPRIATE TOPIC FOR DCA NEGOTIATIONS.

2. EVEN THOUGH THE WAIVER IS NO LONGER AN ISSUE AS FAR AS THE DC IS CONCERNED, IT IS STILL IN THE GREEKS' MINDS. DURING AN INFORMAL GATHERING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON JULY 18, ONE OF THE GREEK DELEGATES MADE PASSING REFERENCE TO "INFORMATION" THAT THE U.S. HAD GRANTED SUCH A WAIVER TO TURKEY AND THAT THIS SHOULD LEAD TO A "SETTLEMENT" ON THE GREEK REQUEST. GREEK DELEGATE'S COMMENT MIGHT REFLECT AN ACTUAL RUMOR FLOATING AMONG THE GREEKS OR IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN MERELY A FISHING EXPEDITION. U.S. DELEGATES AVOIDED ANY CONVERSATION ON THIS SUBJECT.

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3. WE ARE, OF COURSE, NOT AWARE OF THE STATUS OF ANY ALLEGED WAIVER FOR THE TURKS NOR DO WE FEEL OBLIGED TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH THE GREEKS. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE ADDRESSEES SHOULD KNOW THAT, IF A WAIVER FOR THE TURKS IS IN FACT IN THE OFFING AND BECOMES PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, WE COULD EXPECT A STRONG REACTION FROM THE GREEKS AND AN ATTACK ON THE CREDIBILITY OF THE U.S. POSITION ON THIS ISSUE DURING DCA NEGOTIATIONS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Sent Date: 19-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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